

Chief Officer's Report

1. CCG's Authorisation

I am delighted to announce that we have received notification from the NHS England, (the new name for NHS Commissioning Board), that Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is now an authorised statutory NHS body.

The Governing Body would have been aware that we were requested to provide some further assurance regarding the CCG's safeguarding arrangements. This additional information was submitted and has been approved so, as a consequence, Lewisham CCG is today fully authorised. I would like to congratulate the safeguarding teams for their hard work in demonstrating that our arrangements in this critical area are robust.

This was the final piece of a large and complex jigsaw and I extend my thanks to everyone involved along the journey. We are now ready as an organisation to assert our commissioning power to improve our population's health outcomes.

2. Transfer of Responsibilities to the CCG and the new NHS

During the last year, we have been working with the Lewisham PCT and South East London cluster of PCTs to identify all PCT's functions to ensure that they are understood, documented and transferred to the correct part of the new NHS system. For Lewisham, this means we are clear which functions we, the CCG, are responsible for and why and also that we are assured that the accountability of other functions have been transferred appropriately to other NHS organisations and the Local Authority. This work has been documented in a PCT Legacy Report which is available on request from tonyread@nhs.net.

3. NHS 111

NHS 111 is a new service that is being introduced across England to make it easier for public to access local NHS healthcare services. The public will be able to call 111 when they need medical help fast at whatever the time. But it is not for 999 emergency calls.

As part of the roll out implementation programme, NHS 111 will be launched in Lewisham after during April, the final date has yet to be confirmed. Further information on NHS 111 in Lewisham is available from tonyread@nhs.net.

Martin Wilkinson
Chief Officer
28th March 2013